

Amendments to the Claims:

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-38 (canceled).

39. (new) A remote control for controlling a video display system comprising:
an exterior surface of the remote control including a data entry portion by which a user of the remote control can control power and volume of the video display system;
a slot in the exterior surface of the remote control capable of receiving a card shaped object upon which data is stored;
a sensor disposed within the exterior surface of the remote control and in proximity to the slot, the sensor being adapted to read data stored upon the card shaped object;
a memory for storing the data read from the card-shaped object;
a circuit for encrypting the data received from the card-shaped object; and
an interface coupled to the sensor for providing the encrypted data to the video display system.

40. (new) The remote control of claim 39 wherein the card shaped object stores information magnetically and the sensor detects the magnetic information.

41. (new) The remote control of claim 40 wherein the card shaped object comprises a credit card.

42. (new) The remote control of claim 39 wherein the card shaped object stores information optically and the sensor detects the optical information.

43. (new) The remote control of claim 42 wherein the information comprises a bar code.

44. (new) The remote control of claim 39 wherein the remote control includes logic for comparing the encrypted data from the card-shaped object with data previously stored in the remote control before providing the encrypted data to the video display system.

45. (new) The remote control of claim 39 the interface also receives identification information about the remote control from the remote control and provides both the identification information about the remote control and the data from the sensor to the video display system.

46. (new) The remote control of claim 41 wherein the data provided from the sensor to the video display system comprises at least one of an account number and data identifying the user of the remote control.

47. (new) The remote control of claim 44 wherein the logic further includes a pseudorandom number generator for use in the encryption.

48. (new) A video display system for providing transactional capability from a remote control device, the system comprising:

a video display;

a remote control configured to control the display, the remote control including:

an exterior surface having a data entry portion by which a user of the remote control can control power and volume of the video display system;

a slot in the exterior surface of the remote control capable of receiving a card shaped object upon which data is stored;

a sensor disposed within the exterior surface of the remote control and in proximity to the slot, the sensor being adapted to read data stored upon the card shaped object;
and

a memory for storing the data read from the card-shaped object;
a circuit for encrypting the data; and
an interface coupled to the sensor for providing the data from the memory
to the video display system.

a second interface configured to transfer the read data to a
communications network.

49. (new) The system of claim 48 wherein the remote control further includes a
logic circuit for comparing the encrypted data from the card shaped object with data previously
stored in the system.

50. (new) The system of claim 49 further including a network server coupled to
the second interface and configured to decrypt the data transferred to the communications
network.

51. (new) The system of claim 48 wherein the display is contained within the
remote control and the display is further configured for use in programming the remote control.

52. (new) A method of using a remote control for a video display system to
capture data from a card shaped object and securely transmit it comprising:

providing a remote control having a slot therein for receiving the card shaped
object;

placing the card shaped object in the slot;

detecting data on the card shaped object;

at least temporarily storing the data read from the card shaped object in a memory
in the remote control;

using a wireless interface, transferring the data read from the remote control to the
video display system;

transferring the data from the video display system to a third party; and

authenticating the data transferred from the video display system.

53. (new) The method of claim 52 further including encrypting the detected data before it is transferred to the video display system.

54. (new) The method of claim 52 wherein remote control includes device identification data to identify the remote control and the device identification data is also provided to the video display system with the data read from the card shaped object.

55. (new) The method of claim 54 wherein the card shaped object comprises a credit card, and further including a step of determining whether the credit card is authorized to perform the secure transactions by using the device identification data.

56. (new) The method of claim 53 further including a step of generating a pseudorandom number for the encryption by using a logic circuit within the remote control.

57. (new) A video display system configured for performing a secure transaction, the video display system comprising:
a remote control including video control means for controlling functions of the video display system;
the remote control further including slot means for allowing a card shaped object having data stored thereon to be read by the remote control;
sensor means for reading data from the card shaped object and encrypting the data;
interface means for transferring the data read from the remote control to the video display system; and
network means for transferring data read from the video display system to a communications network.

58. (new) The secure transaction system of claim 57 further including encryption means for encrypting the read data.

59. (new) A video display system comprising,
a video display;
a remote control configured to control at least power and volume functions of the video display, the remote control including:
a mechanical data entry portion having a power on/off control and a volume control;
a slot for receiving a credit card;
an electromagnetic sensor positioned to read data from the credit card as the credit card is passed through the slot;
a memory connected to the sensor to store the data read from the credit card;
a first wireless interface configured to transfer the data from the credit card data to the video display system;
the video display being configured to display a menu responsive to the data transferred from the credit card, configured for the user to select a character from the menu, and configured to transfer the selected character from the video display to the remote control through the first interface for storage in the memory; and
a second interface configured to transfer data stored in the memory to a communications network.

60. (new) The video display system of claim 59 wherein the memory also stores device identification data.

61. (new) The video display system of claim 60 wherein the data stored in the memory includes user address data.